

The West Virginian

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BELATED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

When the newspapers first referred
to the general business depression,
President Wilson said it was only psy-
chological, or in other words, only in
the mind.

The Democratic press, taking their
cue from the President, continued to
tell the people there was nothing the
matter with business, and the few who
admitted that there was "a slight busi-
ness depression" blamed it all on the
year, and denounced all newspapers
which told the truth about business
conditions as "calamity howlers," but
now, since the election is over it is the
same Democratic press that is most
industriously revealing the facts
about business conditions.

The Pittsburgh Post is the only
Democratic paper published at Pitts-
burgh, and a paper in this great in-
dustrial center, undoubtedly has a
splendid opportunity to know condi-
tions as they are and the Post admits
the business depression by pointing
to its resumption, saying "this does
not mean that a general resumption
in all lines is at hand." The comment
of the Post follows:

A RIFT IN THE BUSINESS CLOUDS
"From many sides come indications
of a promised revival of business, but
none more potent than the announce-
ment of the resumption on a big scale
of the steel furnaces and the sheet
and tin plate plants of the United
States Steel Corporation in Sharon,
and greater activities in the National
Tube Company's mills in McKeesport
and some of the mining industries in
the Monongahela valley."

While perhaps this does not mean
that a general resumption in all lines
is at hand, it does show clearly that
there is a rift in the clouds, and that
the business interests of the country
already have a glimpse of the light
which is to herald another era of gen-
eral prosperity.

"The railroads, many of which have
been hit hard in the past year, are
beginning to feel about for steel rails
and additions to their rolling stock.
The Pennsylvania is reported as hav-
ing initiated an order for 1,050 new
cars to be built at the Altoona shops,
and export orders from time to time
are increasing. So, 1914 is drawing
to a close under manifestly better
conditions than some of the more op-
timistic a few months ago looked
or even hoped for."

There certainly could be no "general
resumption" unless there had been a
general suspension of business.

The Wheeling Register makes its
confession as follows:

Outlook Brightens.
"The beginning of the week saw a
considerable reduction in the number
of unemployed in the Wheeling dis-
trict, and while the return to normal
conditions in the iron and steel in-
dustries is not as rapid as was ex-
pected, there is substantial ground
for an optimistic view of the future."

"Conditions show a marked improve-
ment throughout the upper Ohio val-
ley." The Pittsburgh papers of yes-
terday announced that the American
Sheet and Tin Plate Company will
operate 15 of its 20 mills at the Fer-
rell works and 25 of its 30 mills at
New Castle, a gain of 10 mills over
last week. The Carnegie company has
fired another open hearth furnace,
making eight out of 12 on the largest
number in operation since October.

The Sharon steel hoop mill will
operate to full capacity for the first
time in months. At McKeesport the Na-
tional Tube Company's mills are
working larger forces than for sev-
eral months, and 400 miners started
to work near that city Monday after
weeks of idleness.

"Nothing is gained by raising false
hopes," but when men like President
Taft of the United States Steel Cor-
poration, Judge Gary and Charles M.
Schwab all predict a notable revival

of industrial activity after the begin-
ning of the year, the workers and the
business man dependent upon them
are warranted in looking forward to
it with the utmost confidence.
The West Virginian and other pa-
pers told of the closing of these very
mills, the Register says are prepar-
ing to resume operations in part, and
for telling the people the truth we
were rewarded by denunciation from
the Democratic press and all of these
falsehoods, or the managers of these
plants were charged with closing them
through a diabolical political con-
spiracy to influence the voters. If that
was the case why are they waiting
so long to resume operations, and why
do they feel their way so carefully
by only starting up part of the plants,
if the orders are in sight to keep
them running with a full force of men
and why is the time of "general
resumption" postponed by the Demo-
cratic press till sometime after the
first of the coming year?

Dr. Charles P. Steinhilber, Chief
consulting Engineer of the General Elec-
tric Company, one of the largest in-
dustrial organizations in the world, is
quoted in the New York World, a
Democratic newspaper as follows:
"There are a million men out of
work in the United States today and
a hundred thousand men starving, and
this at a time when we ought to be
enjoying an unprecedented measure
of prosperity."

He says there are a million men
out of work and a hundred thousand
starving and he is not conducting any-
body's campaign neither is he a can-
didate for office and, of course, he
does not expect to influence any vot-
ers by telling the truth when no cam-
paign is on.

Another question we would like to
ask our Democratic friends and that
is, what is there about the war situa-
tion now that is better for business
in this country than existed at the
beginning of the war. In other words
if the war is the cause of the business
depression, why does it not get worse
as the war continues, and how can it
improve unless the war stops?

A COLD PROPOSITION.

Congressman Smith, of Buffalo, has
introduced a resolution in the House
of Representatives, setting up claim
to the North Pole by right of Peary's
discovery. We thought our imperialis-
tic tendencies would end with the ac-
quisition of the Philippine Islands, but
it seems that our ambition to add
more to our territorial possessions
was not to end there.

Before the United States undertakes
to extend its protecting arms around
the cold and shivering form of the
unsympathetic North Pole, we want to
give Congress the benefit of our un-
solicited advice. We ask the West
Virginia delegation, especially not to
warm up to this rigid proposition.

Without giving the subject much care,
in consideration, "Pause we say,"
Stop, look and listen! Think of the
expense this country would be put
in keeping a standing army at the
Arctic Apex of the earth to protect our
possessions from the invasion of hos-
tile nations! Think of the cost of
maintaining the commissary depart-
ment in the frozen north, with the
price of gum drops keeping pace with
the high cost of living! Think of com-
bating the Monroe Doctrine against
the invading hordes of Eskimos and
preserving the neutrality of the in-
habitants of North Pole with the war-
rations of Europe! We should not
think of establishing more than a
friendly protectorate over the fat and
woolly inhabitants of the North Pole
territory.

It makes the cold shiverations go
cavorting up and down our spinal-
columnal-structural anatomy every
time we think of taking possession of
the North Pole.

Let us desist, yes let us refrain
from serious thought of taking this
step across the ice flows of the Arctic
Circle at least until summer comes
once again!

"ENSMALLING" THE

LEGISLATURE.
The Parkersburg State Journal says
the Preston News is in favor of "en-
smalling" the legislature, but ex-
presses some doubt about the conjugation
of the verb. According to Geo. Ade's
dictionary ensmall means to "divine
to smaller parts," "to lop off," "to
cause to fade away," "23, beat it, or
skiddoo for a part thereof," etc.
We think we catch the meaning of
the News. It wants the legislature
"ensmalled" as to numbers and
"alargd" as to ability and efficiency,
a suggestion of considerable merit.

THE APEX OF THE COLD WAVE.

The cold wave seems to have come
from all directions and apexed con-
versely at Fairmont. Twelve below
is somewhat depressing.

TURN OFF THE GAS.

Watch the gas. Reports of gas ex-
plosions with fatal results are fre-
quent now. If you sleep with the
gas on in your bedroom, the room
should be fully ventilated. The safest
plan is to turn the gas off on retiring.
Sleeping in a closed room with the gas
burning, with the danger of the gas
going off and coming back on during
the night, is like flirting with death.
Natural gas is one of nature's greatest
blessings and a great convenience,
but like all other good things it car-
ries its penalties for its careless use.

GANG STANDS PAT.

"Confronted with the necessity of
adding about 33 per cent to the bur-
den of the taxpayers to pay for the
high salaried unnecessary public offi-
cials and for their own blundering
and incompetence, the five gangsters
in the Council discarded the last pro-
mise of economy and the application
of business methods to the city's af-
fairs yesterday."

No, gentle reader, these are not the
words of the West Virginian, although
they do seem to describe local condi-
tions. It was the staid and conserva-
tive old Pittsburgh Dispatch that said
these unkind words.

What do you suppose a conservative
paper would say if it commented upon
the conditions of Fairmont where the
salary and wage budget was increas-
ed twenty thousand dollars in one
year in spite of the fact that the city
is staggering under the weight of a
hundred thousand dollars of floating
indebtedness?

SHALL BELGIUM DIE?

Brave Belgium shall not die—
Nay!—for the whole earth swears
its blood implores the sky—
And heaven hears the prayer.
The just of power and lands
Blood has defied,
And pleads that God's own hands
Fell on the brave who died.

Their fields are only dust
And stained with the deepest red;
Hunger has not a crust—
And God is credited!

Shall not the wide earth see
Crowns are belated crime—
And men shall have degrees
And deeds become sublime.

Wither with scorn the shame
And mockery of God—
Yea, let the whole earth flame
To burn the devil's brood.

Of rulers holding men
Only for cannon's food!—
Their ghosts shall come again
From marsh and plain and wood;

How shall it be with kings
When leagued with life they come,
And fate on dead things
Shadow of righteous drum?

Then Peace shall light the world
Where murder burned incense
Of flags that Death had furled
To worship inscience.

Yea—let the whole earth swear
Hearing a nation's cry—
Let oath be sworn, with prayer;
Brave Belgium shall not die!
—A. A. Cavaness.

THE COUNTY COURTS

GENEROSITY.
The people of Fairmont and Fair-
view district, have contributed to the
cause of good roads the sum of \$400-
000 by a bond issue which is to be
paid by direct taxation on their prop-
erty, but the county court is not sat-
isfied with putting this burden on
them and has paved the streets of
Mannington, paying the sum of \$5,333-
44 for the work out of the county
fund, which was therefore very large-
ly contributed by the tax payers of
this city, whose taxable property
makes up almost one third of the tax-
able property of the entire county.

The taxable property of the county be-
ing in round numbers, \$66,000,000 and
of Fairmont about \$18,000,000, mak-
ing the contribution of the tax payers
of Fairmont to this paving job over
\$1500, for which they get no benefit.
The County Court is indeed very
generous with the money of the people
especially when it is to be spent for
the benefit of the neighbors of the
president of the Court.

Mr. Glover may add to the strength
of his boom for sheriff in his own
district by such work, but how many
extrax votes will it give him from
Fairmont where the heaviest voting
strength lies?

THE EVIDENCE.

A coke plant at Uniontown was sold
for \$1.00 and the assumption of
mortgages at a public sale yesterday.
Another evidence of retreating pros-
perity.

A LA PRESTON NEWS.

As the Preston News might say it.
"This cold weather 'shivers our tim-
bers.'"

STILL AT RANDOM.

When the present Big Four system
of city government loses by compari-
son of its expense with that of the
"Government at Random" system of
1913 it makes a sorry showing in-
deed. The salary and wage budgets
of the two years show \$20,000 in fa-
vor of the "Government at Random."
That was bad enough and the people
get rid of it. They can get rid of
what they have now by becoming in
dead earnest about it.

MUST ANSWER YET.

The depression of business and the
high cost of living which the Republi-
cans blame on the Democratic ad-
ministration are world-wide condi-
tions. The cables, tell for example, of
hass meetings held throughout Italy
yesterday for the purpose of urging
some steps to alleviate the distress
due to unemployment and high prices.
—Wheeling Register.

Yes, but did not the Democrats
tell the people that the Republican
tariff policy was the cause of the high
in the tariff would bring the prices
cost of living and that a reduction
down.

The Republican s do not put the
blame for the high cost of living on
the Democratic party, but they do
bame it with the business depression
and for the failure of its promise to
reduce the high cost of living. The
Democratic party must answer for
its failure.

WINTER HINTS.

Take the eggs from the nest before
going to bed tonight. Any well bred
hen would as soon thaw out a deer knob
as a frozen egg.

Keep the churn close to the fire; you
can't make butter from ice cream.

Let the spigot run if you pay for
your water on meter rates; if not, let
it run anyway, but send a contribution
to the water department conscience
fund.

Feed the English sparrows; they can-
not build nests in your water spouts
next summer if they are permitted to
starve this winter.

Carry a chair cushion with you when
traveling the slippery streets; if you
must sit down, why not make it as
comfortable as possible?

Keep your hands out of your pockets
while shoveling snow; it is not good
form to put your hands in your pockets
—only when you are having some one
else doing the shoveling.

Put in as much time talking about
the weather as possible; we do not
have cold spells like this only every
winter.

When coasting guide the sled

straight for the street or track, a pass-
ing automobile or other vehicle, it is
great sport to scare them out of the
way.

To test thin ice walk out bravely
over the deepest water; if it does not
break with your weight, it is safe; if
it drops you through to the icy waters,
it is dangerous.

Just Smiles

The Elevating Influence of Irene.
Miss Irene Sommerville, of Bethel,
W. Va., is the charming guest for a
week of Miss Louise Yeager. Conse-
quently Harry Krauter visited the ben-
edict's headquarters, Eli's Clothing
House, corner Front and Court streets,
Pomeroy, Ohio, and Harry is sure in
the general ring of good looking and
among the best dressed young men of
our village.—Correspondence Pomeroy
(Ohio) Tribune.

The Old Useful Birch Rod.
How dear to my heart are the scenes
of my childhood,
When fond recollections present
them to view.
How Ma, with the birch rod (Oh, I
was quite young then),
Would exclaim: "This hurts me
more than it does you."
—Boston Globe.

Pinched!

Mr. and Mrs. Will Finch entertain-
ed company from Eaton Rapids,
Brookfield, Charlotte and Diamondale
Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Finch returned home
from Brookfield Monday.
Mrs. Ray Finch returned to her
home near Pottsville Monday after
a week's illness at J. O. Finch's.
Glen Finch and family, from the
Plains, also Ray Finch, of Pottsville,
visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs.
J. O. Finch, Sunday.—Correspondence
Eaton Rapids (Mich.) Review.

The Christmas Stocking.
Oh, winter winds will blow, blow,
blow.
And what of maidens who, I trow,
Have very little down below,
Nor have that little long!
—Cumberland News.

A Girl Likes.
Some one who can step and glide
With an art so clever,
That she feels that by his side
She could dance forever!

An Airman to His Love.
I may arrive somewhere alive,
By courage and endurance;
But if I'm wrecked then you'll collect
My accident insurance.

A Full Day.
Mrs. Harry Kruskamp was at Galli-
poli Friday shopping and came back
loaded.—Vinton (Ohio) Leader.

Heay, Skin-nay, Come on Over!
Last Thursday was singularly full
of mishaps. Marie Young, while play-
ing on the turning bar at the school
house, fell against a tree and disloca-
ted the cap of her right elbow. Pro-
fessor Kuhlman, doing some specta-
cular stunts, fell and disfigured his
features temporarily. Shortly after-
ward Rudolph Hrmodka made his dare
devil dash down Wiles' hill and was
knocked senseless.—Gleason (Pa.)
Times.

Song and Story

The Blessing of a Friend.
Commend me to the friend that comes
When I am sad and lone,
And makes the anguish of my heart
The suffering of his own;
Who coldly shuns the glittering throng
At pleasure's gay levee,
And comes to gild a sombre hour
And gives his heart to me.

He hears me count my sorrows o'er,
And when the task is done
He freely gives me all I ask—
A sigh for every one.
He cannot wear a smiling face
When mine is touched with gloom;
But like the violet, seeks to cheer
The midnight with perfume.

Commend me to that generous heart
Which, like the pine on high,
Uplifts the same unvarying brow
To every change of sky;
Whose friendship does not fade away
When wintry tempests blow,
But like the winter's icy crown
Looks greener through the snow.

He flies not with the flitting stork,
That seeks a southern sky,
But lingers where the wounded bird
Hath laid him down to die.
Oh, such a friend! He is in truth,
Whate'er his lot may be,
A rainbow on the storm of life,
An anchor on its sea.
—Rev. J. O. Borton, Ph. D.

One afternoon, while a stranger was
attending to some business in a cor-
ner grocery, an old man rambled in.
The stranger became interested, and
asked him his age.
"I am just 100 years old," answer-
ed the old man, sitting on a packing
box.

"Is that so," jokingly responded the
stranger. "Well, I'll bet you don't
live to see another 100."
"I don't know about that," was the
smiling rejoinder of the aged native.
"I am a whole lot stronger now than
I was when I started on my first 100."
—Christian Endeavor World.

Under the Bi-partisan city govern-
ment, fathered by Chilton, Rummel
and Grosscup, it costs \$16,000 to main-

State Editors

SAME OLD STORY AS CHARLES-
TON AND FOR THE SAME REA-
SONS.

Under the Bi-partisan city govern-
ment, fathered by Chilton, Rummel
and Grosscup, it costs \$16,000 to main-

tain the Board of Affairs, and none of
them can scarcely ever be found at
their place of business. This should
be made a one man's job, and we don't
need a manager at that.

It should be a mayor with a reason-
able salary. The plan of city govern-
ment should be purely non-partisan.
And the charter should contain all
the instruments of popular govern-
ment, to-wit, the Initiative, Referen-
dum and Recall, Civil Service, and the
right of the people to vote upon the
granting away of franchises.—Charles-
ton Sun-Herald.

The Fairmont West Virginian has a
handsome new head. The West Vir-
ginian's heart has always been right,
and the new head is a credit to its
heart.—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

FREE TEXT BOOKS

In the efforts now being made to
secure free text books, the Hunting-
ton Trades and Labor Assembly de-
serves and ought to have the co-op-
eration of the progressive citizenship
of the community. That the provi-
sion demanded has been so long delay-
ed is an indictment largely to the dis-
credit of the state of West Virginia.
The provision for free text books
ought to be state-wide, and the next
legislature will fall the people in a
vital need if it permits the session to
close without making free text books
possible.

If the legislature permits the ques-
tion to go begging, as it has done in
the past, then it will become the duty
of the municipality to make such pro-
visions as will serve the needs.

The state owes to every boy and
girl the opportunity to secure an edu-
cation. It is painfully true that thou-
sands of families are unable to provide
books for their children. The curse of
illiteracy owes, in no small measure,
its existence to this very fact. The
Herald-Dispatch, would not counsel
a law making the state buy books for
all children. Parents whose financial
standing is such as to enable them to
provide for their own children should
do so, and, as a rule, do so provide.
Fride and a sense of honor, however,
will draw the line, and the state would
not be imposed upon to any great ex-
tent under such a law.

In indorsing the movement started
by the Trades and Labor Assembly,
the Herald-Dispatch will go a step fur-
ther. It will offer an amendment
compelling the state to furnish shoes
and other necessary wearing apparel
for children ambition to go to school,
but who are being deprived of the op-
portunity because of poverty. The
state which professes to maintain a
trunacy system, but which fails at the
same time to furnish free text books
proaches dangerously near hypocrisy.
—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

Current Comment

INDIANS WHO STRUCK OIL.
When Secretary Lane in his annual
report speaks of the Osages as proba-
bly the wealthiest people in the world
he draws a picture of prosperity in
which their numerous brothers on
Western reservations have no part.
It was the fortune of the Navajos, one
of the strongest and wealthiest tribes
among the 300,000 Indians still remain-
ing in the United States, to be consign-
ed to a barren tract of territory in Ari-
zona and New Mexico. By good luck
the Five Civilized Tribes came into
possession of immensely rich lands
whose future value was little suspect-
ed. The Navajos still live as best they
can from their sheep and ponies, as
they did forty years ago. The Osages,
Chickasaws have substantial prop-
erty interests. It was not the original
intention of the Government to favor
one class more than another or proba-
bly to favor either of them greatly.

Through the allotment of their
tribal lands in severity the Osages
each received about 657 acres. Their
average wealth is \$9,579, and their
average income from oil and gas roy-
alties alone \$690. The average Osage
family of four, would receive an in-
come of nearly \$2,700, aside from the
returns from the land allotted its mem-
bers. There are individual Creks
who last year received over \$90,000
in oil royalties.

The tribal revenues collected last
year for the Five Civilized Tribes from
grazing fees, coal and asphalt leases,
payment on town lots and sale of un-
allotted lands amounted to \$1,956,297
and since 1898 over \$17,000,000 has
been deposited to their credit. The
problem in their case is to keep them
from wasting their resources and now
that they have the status of citizens,
from being preyed upon by their white
neighbors.

The problem with other less fortun-
ate tribes is how they shall be raised
from the verge of starvation and
made self-supporting by the aid of
a Government which tardily is recog-
nizing its responsibilities. These did
not strike oil. —N. Y. World.

Luke McLuke

(From Cincinnati Enquirer.)

The Maxim silencer for guns seems
to have been a bloomer. But the Mar-
ried Men's Protective Association will
make it worth Maxim's while if he
will revamp the silencer so it can be
used by a woman.

Father is so tired when he gets
home that mother has to go down in
the cellar and heave coal in the fur-
nace while father goes out and heaves
a 15-pound ball down a bowling al-
ley.

I may be wrong, but I'll bet that
the fellows who have stock in the sus-
pension bridge that runs between
here and Kentucky were hoping that

9 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS.

IT IS NOW WISE TO SHOP EARLY TO AVOID THE RUSH.
REMEMBER
Not to forget your friends. We have many things that would please
any man. Ties, hose, supporters, belts, suspenders, bathrobes, hats,
collar bags, shirts, combination sets, initialed handkerchiefs, suits,
overcoats.

R. GILKESON

"That Totally Different Shop."

Tailor, Clothier and Furnisher . . . 107 Main Street

YOU'RE NOT
REAL
CONTENTED

until you are able
to sit back comfort-
ably and look into the future, with its promises of happi-
ness and comfort and know that you are prepared for
the proverbial rainy days, or, better still, prepared for
every advanced step you are thinking of making.

Her happiness and yours depend solely upon what
preparation you make now—and the one preparation
that counts is to build in yourself a determination to
better yourself financially.

There is wonderful strength and great satisfaction of
mind in having a bank account.

WE INVITE YOUR ACCOUNT.

First National Bank
OF FAIRMONT

Ohio would not go dry.

When you are feasting your eyes on
a pretty girl, it is hard to believe that
her hating average in the Snoring
league is about 500.

A married woman's idea of a good
job would be one in which her hus-
band got \$500 per week and got his
afternoons off so that he could take
care of the children and get his nights
off so she could keep him at home
and know where he was.

Before they are married she is so
dainty that she peeks at ice cream
and cake like a humming bird. But
after they are married, what she can
do to a hunk of rye bread smeared
with limburger cheese and covered
with raw onions is a crime.

CURIOUS FACTS

Airguns were first made in Germany
in 1516 by Guhr.
Spain last year produced 600 metric
tons of antimony.
An ash can to which a handle can

be attached to convert it into a lawn
roller has been patented.

According to an Italian mathema-
tician, every person in the world could
stand comfortably in an area of 500
square miles, while a graveyard about
the size of Colorado would bury all
of them.